Production of iron ore

†1246. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of production of iron ore in the country during the last three years;

(b) the amount of royalty received by the State Governments during these years;

(c) the rate of royalty charged by the different State Governments on different types of iron ore at present; and

(d) what was the sale price of iron ore in each quarter during the last three years and its status as on date alongwith its present sale price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) As per available information, the production of iron ore in the country during the last three years is given below:

(Quantity in '000 tonnes)

Year	Total
2003-04	122838
2004-05	142788
2005-06 (provisional)	154250

(c) The rates of royalty for iron ore of different grades as given in the Second Schedule of MMDR Act, 1957 are applicable to all States.

(b) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of BALCO

†1247. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state the details of the difference in purity of production of BALCO before and after its disinvestment for the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): The purity of production of BALCO during three years prior to disinvestment and after disinvestment, upto the last financial year is as under:—

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Before disinvestment	Purity (%)
1998-99	99.38
1999-2000	99.37
2000-01	99.42

After disinvestment	Purity (%)
2001-02	98.91
2002-03	99.27
2003-04	99.17
2004-05	99.22
2005-06	99.53

Policy on captive mining

1248. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have appointed any committee to recommend on the policy on captive mining;

(b) if so, whether the committee submitted its report; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith action plan to put those recommendations in practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) Planning Commission had set up a High Level Committee under the chairmanship of Shri Anwarul Hoda, Member, Planning Commission. As one of its Terms of Reference the Committee examined the issues of captive mines.

(b) and (c) The High Level Committee in its report, submitted the Government, has recommended that:

(i) Stand-alone mining and captive mining should continue to co-exist in the country,

(ii) In case of multiple applications for grant of mineral concessions the existing investment in steel plants which have exhausted their current captive mines should also be considered,